3105 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94705
Dated Matter
Time Value: 1 Feb 1980

Non-profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Berkeley, CA
Permit #22



Cultural Center Calendar Feb, 1980
3105 Shattuck, Berkeley 849-2568

Solidarity Campaign with El Salvador
"Homage to Farabundo Marti," February 1, 8 pm, Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis, San Francisco. Poetry by Fernando Alegría, Roberto Vargas, Tomás Gaspar, Janice Miricutani, Max Schwartz, and Alma Villanueva. Music by La Peña Community Chorus, José Luis Orozco and Lucha y Paz.

We've done it again!
Once again we have La Peña T-shirts on sale. Ask for one next time you come in.

Portrait of Teresa
Bay Area Premiere of a new Cuban film by Pastor Vega, at the York Theater, 2789 24th St, San Francisco, February 6 & 7 at 7 pm and 9:15 pm. Tickets, $3, on sale at La Peña.

Carnaval
Join us between 2 and 6 pm on February 24, for a buffet of Brazilian dishes served in a carnival atmosphere. Delight in the music of the Afro-Brazilian dance troupe, **Batucajé**. Proceeds will benefit La Peña.

Una Tarda Puertorriquena
February 9, 1–5 pm, Saludando a la Escuela de Arte del Museo del Barrio, New York City. Reception and exhibition of posters by Taller Urayoán, San Francisco; Taller Boricua, NYC; and El Museo del Barrio, NYC.

The Community Chorus of La Peña in Concert
In San Francisco, at The Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. Friday, February 22 at 7:30 pm, $2.50
In Berkeley, at La Peña, Friday, February 29 at 7:30 pm, $2.50

Films at La Peña
To improve the quality of our film showings, we've invested in a new screen. Come and see the difference!

DOM-SUN	LUN-MON	MAR-TUES	MIER-WED	JUEV-THUR	VIER-FRI	SAB-SAT
					1 **Toxic Comedy and Topical Funnies. Plutonium Players** presents David Rockefeller and King Tut in *the Rocky Hieroglyphic Show.* Environmental degradation, lethal pesticides, nuclear disasters ... not laughing matters? Wait 'til you hear satirist **Darryl Henriques** as Joe Carinogenni, the Purple Poisoner, and the Swami from Miami. A comedy of power: corporate, nuclear, pyramid, etc. 8 pm. $3.	**2** Peña Fiesta with **The Royal Chicano Band.** De Sacramento, Freddie Rodriguez and friends play a little something for everybody: Cumbia from Central America, Mexico, and Cuba; Ranchera, a combination of the European polka & Latin music; Bolero, slow Latin ballad; plus disco, rock 'n roll, and oldies. ¡A bailar! 9:30 pm, $3.
3 **Marxism & Psychology** 10 years ago leftists began turning to European Marxists who attempted to integrate Marxism & psychology to explain personal life & the development of popular consciousness. Richard Lichtman, Ilene Philipson, & Eli Zaretsky will discuss the problems & controversies Sponsored by East Bay Socialist School. 8 pm, $1.	**4** **Blue Monday** We're continuing our Blue Mondays with more of the great musicians in the area. This week it will be **Sonny Rhodes** & his Blues Band. 9 pm, $2.50	**5** Peña Film Series **Chaplin Film Festival** 92 min, six short films: *Those Love Pangs, A Woman, Making A Living, Kid Auto Races at Venice, A Busy Day, Tango Tangles.* 7:30 & 9 pm. $1.50 (kids $1) More detailed descriptions inside the calendar.	**6** Peña Film Showing **The War of the Buttons** 92 min (1962), b/w, directed by Yves Robert. An allegory of war told in terms of French children. The kids of two villages are in combat over an insignificant insult. Also explores relationships between the children and the adults. The children seem to be much more intelligent than their parents. English subtitles. 8 pm, $2.	**7** Peña concert with the **New Pantomime Theater** (who have now all arrived from Colombia) offering popular music from Latin America. The group plays rhythms from the Caribbean; the cumbia & other native Colombian styles, & their specialty, música llanera, from the eastern plains, featuring the cuatro, harp, maracas, vocal arabesques characteristic to this form. 8:30 pm, $2.50	**8** **Brecht — Song Review** Interpreted and sung by Germany's **Ina Wittich** returns to Berkeley by popular demand. Ina's electrifying presentation shows not only Bertolt Brecht's more popular works from the Threepenny Opera, but the unknown songs written in collaboration with Hanns Eisler. In full command of the German Sprech-Gesang style, Ina Wittich dynamically presents *Change the World: It Needs It.* 8:30 pm, $3	**9** Peña concert with **Inti-Guara.** Only Bay Area appearance by this group of Chilean exiles playing music of the Andes with the traditional instruments: charango, quena, zampoña, guitar, and bombo. High mountain music from Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Argentina, and Chile. 9 pm, $4
10 **Marxism and Women** The women's movement forced Marxists to reconsider the relationship between sex & class in understanding women's experiences & has challenged traditional Marxists' strategies for women's liberation. Diane Ehrensaft, Barbara Epstein, Barbara Haber, & Judy Stacey will examine the most recent ideas & explore new paths to the socialist-feminist movement. Sponsored by E. Bay Socialist School. 8 pm, $1	**11** **Blue Monday** **JJ Malone & the Troyce Key Blues Band.** JJ has recorded on Galaxy & he's one of the first blues stars to come out of Oakland. They've all been playing the blues ... seems like since gold was discovered in California. 9 pm, $2.50	**12** Peña Film Series **I Spent My Life in the Mines,** 40 min, color, USA. The strength of the miners' organizations in the context of their grim daily reality. **The Cost of Cotton,** 30 min, color, USA. Guatemala has quietly become a major user of cotton, only since the introduction of the widespread use of DDT in the tropics. 8 pm, $2	**13** **International Women's Day Conference on Working Women Benefit Reading,** featuring readers from the Women Writers Union; a group of feminist writers who stress the connection between art & the struggle against racism, sexism, and classism: Lenore Weiss, Nellie Wong, Susan Dambroff, Gabrielle Daniels. 8 pm, $3.	**14** **Iran Forum.** Speakers from the Iranian Student Association (member ISNU) and Bob Brenner from Workers Power will discuss the conditions and events leading to the current crisis, the role of the left and the clergy, and the future direction of the Iranian revolution. Slide show and in-depth question-and-answer period. 8 pm, $1.50.	**15** **Night of the Screaming Memes.** Satirical shots at the '70s performed by the outrageous Screaming Memes. In their premiere tour of the S.F. Bay Area, this bizarre comedic phenomenon from Monterey Bay exploits the nostalgia wave for all its worth. Creating dozens of characters from a cast of four, this versatile troupe sings, satirizes, and improvises their way through the "stuff" of the '70s. 8 pm, $3.	**16** Peña Fiesta with **Caribbean Hi-Life.** Musicians Jeff Narell, Vicki Randle, Bob Razon, Sweetfoot, and Eddie Soleta set a carnival mood. Calypso, reggae, samba, and salsa rhythms to kick the fog out of your feet. 9:30 pm, $3.50.
17 **June Jordan,** the powerful political black woman poet, novelist, activist, playwright, teacher and author of several children's books. "These poems are fierce and tender, public and intimate, musical and violent. Whatever her theme or mode, June Jordan continually delineated the conditions for survival — of body, the mind and the heart." — Adrienne Rich. 8:30 pm, $4 (See back page for workshop.)	**18** Peña Concert with **Linda Tillery** and **Diane Lindsay.** Come share a special occasion in which Linda gets up from her drums to SING — powerful, sensitive moving vocal talents. Accompanied by L.A. songwriter/pianist Diane Lindsay. 8:30 pm, $3.50.	**19** Peña Film Series **The Battle of Chile,** Chile/Cuba, 1973-76, dir. Patricio Guzman. pt 1: 100 min, pt 2: 91 min, b/w. Easily the best documentary ever made, a sobering testament to the deep social divisions capable of changing the course of history. A powerful portrait of a people divided & a nation on the brink of civil war. It clearly illustrates the complicity of US destabilization policies. 7:30 pm, $2.	**20** **A.I.M. for Freedom and Native American Defense Committee** celebrate 2nd anniversary of the **Longest Walk.** Speakers include Bill Wahpepah, John Trudell, Sid Welsh, Medicine Man Leonard Crowdog, Aggie Williams, T. Sanchez & Larson Simmons. Presentation from Coalition Against Uranium Mining. Speaker from Puerto Rican Nationalist. Plus a film on Longest Walk. 8 pm, $2.	**21** **El Cuadro Flamenco,** a lively and colorfully-costumed flamenco troupe, featuring celebrated dancer **Cruz Luna,** will present an exciting evening of Spanish gypsy song and dance. 8:30 pm, $3.	**22** Peña Concert with **Back in the Saddle.** A musical variety show featuring original & traditional compositions accenting progressive country swing, contemporary pop jazz, bluegrass, & dixie blues, performed with a genuine affection, light-hearted professionalism & musical virtuosity. Beautiful vocals, awe-inspiring instrumentals on strings & horns. A "must see to appreciate" group. 9 pm, $3.50.	**23** Peña Fiesta with **East Bay Mud,** a homegrown community-oriented band who play a hot blend of funk, jazz, Latin, New Orleans and reggae. Berkeley has danced long into many a night this past year at local clubs, and the frequent political benefits the band has lent its rhythmic support to. Come and move! 9:30 pm. $3.50.
24 Peña Concert **An Evening with Woody Guthrie** a program whose popularity can be attributed to the power of Woody's work. With Lenny Anderson, Bruce Green, Art Peterson & Ed Robbins presenting songs & stories of Woody Guthrie with a vitality that proves Woody will never die. 8:30 pm. $2.	**25** **Blue Monday** with **Freddy Roulette Blues Band.** The one band of their kind that has a real history with La Peña. They've been here a lot over the years. 9 pm. $2.50.	**26** Peña Film Series **The Battle of Aigiers** 123 min. (1966) b/w. Amidst riots, attacks on the rebels in the Casbah, bombings in the European sector, Pontecorvo focuses on Ali, the FLN leader, and Colonel Mathieu, the methodical Frenchman who attempts to quell the rebel activity. The unflinching depiction of terrorism and violence is a comment on the terrible force that history exerts over men. 8 pm, $2.	**27** Benefit for **East Bay International Women's Day Committee.** Please join us to raise funds for an International Women's Day Celebration being planned for March 9th. The Whole Works Theater, a lesbian-feminist collective & music by Casselberry-Dupree. 7:30 pm. $3.	**28** **Black Light Theater Project.** James Baldwin reserved for this talented group of Oakland actors his ultimate very personal tribute which he makes about individuals who leave a very serious and distinct impression on how we live. He said, "They are somebody." Community theater dealing with some of our community's toughest realities. 8 pm. $3.	**29** **La Peña Community Chorus in Concert.** Brings a special vitality to folk and protest music of both North and South America. The 30-member chorus and smaller ensembles singing the music of Victor Jara, Violeta Parra, Roy Brown, Aunt Molly Jackson, and traditional songs of the Andean countries. 7:30 pm. $2.50.	**If you move, please let us know your old and new addresses so you can continue receiving the calendar. The Post Office will not forward it, and address corrections are very expensive.** **Wheelchair Accessible** **PAS Vouchers accepted** **Programs are subject to change without notice.**

Understanding El Salvador—

a historical perspective



On October 15, 1979, in the name of "a new and just society," a handful of colonels toppled the repressive regime of Gen. Carlos Humberto Romero to replace it with a military/civilian junta in a continuation of 47 years of military governments in El Salvador. Promising that this was "not just another coup d'etat," the new government immediately declared its aims of eventual free elections, relations with the revolutionary governments of Cuba and Nicaragua, freedom for political prisoners and amnesty for political exiles, while continuing to massacre its citizens in the streets. What does this mean for the tiny Central American nation, with its history of some of the most repressive regimes in the world?

history

As in the rest of Latin America, El Salvador was originally conquered and colonized by Spain, against the resistance of the native population. In 1821, to avoid rising demands by the people for control over their own destiny, Spain set up an independent republic in the hands of a small number of landholders and large capitalists, known as the creoles (or national bourgeoisie). Foreign economic control continued, through European and growing US investment in sugar, cotton and coffee.

Revolutionary activity among the impoverished peasantry reached its peak following the international capitalist crash of 1929, when coffee prices hit rock bottom, throwing thousands out of work. While the young Communist Party succeeded in mobilizing vast numbers of workers and peasants under the leadership of Farabundo Marti, the armed forces felt the need to effect a counterrevolution to restore "order" and succeeded in replacing Araujo's liberal government with a reactionary military junta in 1931. Led by Martinez of the tiny Military Youth Movement, they held power for 13 years.

The people, in the process of heroically defending their towns and villages, were systematically and brutally massacred by the new government. Over 30,000 people (out of a population of 1,300,000) mostly in the countryside, were assassinated in 1932 alone.

Since that time, there have been only military regimes controlling El Salvador, working hand in hand with foreign and national capitalists to insure a perpetuation of the country's economic dependency and the repression of millions of poor and landless people for the benefit of a few. The military has historically represented the petty bourgeoisie, but has always worked in the interests of the largest national and international economic powers.

Despite the crushing defeat of the people, the events of 1932 established a precedent for revolutionary struggle in El Salvador. Uprisings leading to a general strike caused the resignation of Martinez' government in 1944, and again in 1960 the government was forced to exercise massive repression in the face of an organized movement.

The military governments themselves have been severely factionalized, with power alernating between those more liberal sectors who attempted small palliative reforms and reactionary sectors loyal to the all-powerful coffee growers. In the 1950s, because of high coffee prices and low worker unrest, some coffee growers were even persuaded to invest a fraction of their profits into infrastructural reforms such as social services and public works.

Let us examine more closely the economic situation of El Salvador to better understand the existing inequities and the need for immediate radical change.

economy

El Salvador, with its 20,000 square km and 4.8 million people, is the most densely populated country in Central America. Since 75 per cent of the land is held by only 10 per cent of the people, the majority are dependent on wage work, of which there is a dwindling supply. Eighty per cent of the people are propertyless, divided up more or less equally among urban and rural proletariat, small and powerless landowners, and seasonally employed day-workers. There is also a sizable petty merchant group, squeezed by rising prices on one side and lack of consumption (due to workers' low wages) on the other. The well-to-do comprise a whopping 5 per cent of the population.

Prices have more than doubled over the past six years. It is estimated that 73 per cent of children under five suffer from malnutrition, while 63 out of 1000 die before their first birthday. The vast majority of the people do not have adequate sanitary services or fresh clean water. About 65 per cent are illiterate. *Average* per capita income is around !500 per year. **Why is this?**

The economy of El Salvador can be described as "dependency capitalism," that is, an economy which is developing with private industry yet dependent upon foreign investment and outright foreign ownership of the means of production for its growth. The US is, of course, the prime owner1investor and has a large stake in keeping the situation stable. It has been reduced to a three-crop economy: coffee, cotton and sugar provide *70 per cent* of its income. Almost all non-agricultural industry, and a large part of its agriculture, is foreign-owned. **They are there because they can reap huge profits off an almost limitless cheap labor force.** The average daily factory wage is under $2. Workers who own nothing but their labor are forced to work at the whim of the owners, and the military apparatus exists to insure they accept what is dished out.

The financial and industrial/agricultural oligarchy, a tiny but powerful class, are relatively unwilling to change the structure of landholding and investment, although they pay lip service to the need for developing their own productive forces and their own technology. Instead they cater to foreign investment, flaunting their cheap workforce, and develop tourism to bring money into the country. The government also receives millions in foreign loans for ostensibly socially oriented projects, such as electricity and roads (which actually only serve industry) and birth control, but channels a large part of this into its disproportionately huge military and "defense" budget.

recently . . .

The various governments, to maintain this system of dependency since 1932, have had to resort to fierce repression of the people. President Romero, who won elections in 1977 under international accusations of vote fraud, stepped up the repression to a truly fascist level. During the two-and-a-half years of his reign, the military, along with rightist paramilitary organizations like ORDEN and the White Warriors, have killed and tortured thousands. Peasant, worker and student leaders have "disappeared" systematically, as well as popular clergy. Demonstrations and strikes are consistently attacked and dispersed. But resistance has increased, taking on an ever more radical and organized form.

As a result, the US, frightened by revolutionary threats to its profits, has called for "human rights" in El Salvador, putting pressure on Romero to soften his harsh dictatorship in order to avoid another Cuba. And recently, in light of the people's revolutionary victory in Nicaragua, pressure from the US to institute economic reforms has stepped up.

The people of El Salvador have clearly not taken the repression lying down, nor have they been fooled by democratic-sounding rhetoric from the US and recently from its new puppets. United movements of workers, peasants and students have stepped up their waves of peaceful strikes and demonstrations. Politico-military organizations have increased their revolutionary activity to publicize their fearlessness and determination to win control over their own land.

the BPR

The BPR, or Popular Revolutionary Bloc, is the largest people's organization in the country, with over 80,000 members. A 1975 government massacre of students sparked the formation of this broad group as a continuation of the tradition of the heroic Farabundo Marti; the BPR is a unified bloc comprised of over 10 groups representing all sectors of workers and students. At their recent Third Annual Congress, the BPR elaborated their revolutionary strategy of organizing throughout the population, establishing far-reaching revolutionary structures with a strong base among communities to consolidate its foothold.

The BPR does not call for immediate insurrection as do other left organizations—rather, it is attempting to establish a solid nationwide structure so that when the people finally take power, they will be prepared to run the country in a true democratic and socialist manner. The BPR maintains that the only solution for El Salvador is a socialist one, one which will end the country's dependent economic status and develop its productive forces to benefit the majority of the people instead of a privileged few. To this end, the BPR is prepared to undertake the necessary prolonged and at times bloody struggle. Victory will not be easy, but it is certain! Thousands of people are joining the organized ranks of the BPR, laying down their lives for the future of their children, defying the repressive military and Uncle Sam to build a new El Salvador.

the coup

Meanwhile, Romero has been ousted by a group of "liberal" colonels of the same Military Youth Movement who could not have accomplished this feat without US aid, given their small size. And this aid makes sense, given US relucance to "lose" yet another Central American country to its own people as in Nicaragua. Instead, a liberal facade has been installed to continue Romero's unsuccessful, misleading and demogogic strategy of a "democratic opening." At the same time, leading elements of the right are calling for a "1932 solution" to the current mass politicization of the people.

Without altering in the least way the crucial structure of landholding or foreign investment, the new militarylcivilian junta claims to be initiating reforms which will benefit the people. To appease the landless, the junta has declared its intention of land distribution, but a similar move was thwarted in 1975 by the landholders, whose power is far greater than that of a pupet government.

A few opportunist groups of the "left" have recently renounced their opposition and declared support for the new junta. But the BPR, along with the other popular organizations and the majority of working people, has continued to repudiate all recent cosmetic reforms. in the weeks since the coup, they have mounted mass mobilizations and strikes to show their fierce opposition to this new face of fascism. They have occupied the Ministries of Economy and Labor, holding the Minister and several aides hostage, as well as cathedrals in the capital. Politico-military organizations have recently exploded bombs in the offices of the two major daily newspapers, which are the government's propaganda organs, to reaffirm their opposition to the junta. Peaceful demonstrations have been met with the same hail of bullets as during Romero's reign, and the death toll under the new junta has already topped 100. There is no sign that the organized left will back down at this stage, with victory so inevitable.

update

On January 7, 1980, the other major organizations of the left in El Salvador, the Popular Unity Action Front (FAPU), the Popular Leagues February 28 (LP-28), and the Popular Liberation Movement (MLP) joined the BPR. This historical unity undoubtedly puts victory a giant step closer for the Salvadorean people.

Most of the preceding article was taken from *Boletín Internacional* No. 4 (November 1979), published by the Solidarity Bloc with the Struggles of the Salvadorean People (B.P.R.). This is a San Francisco based organization dedicated to supporting the work of the BPR in El Salvador through educational and fundraising work in the Bay Area. The Bloc's office, Casa El Salvador Farabundo Marti, is located at 3557 20th St, between Mission and Valencia. Friends of the BPR urges you to lend your support by reading the bulletin, attending their various functions throughout the Bay Area, or inviting them to make a presentation at schools and organizations.

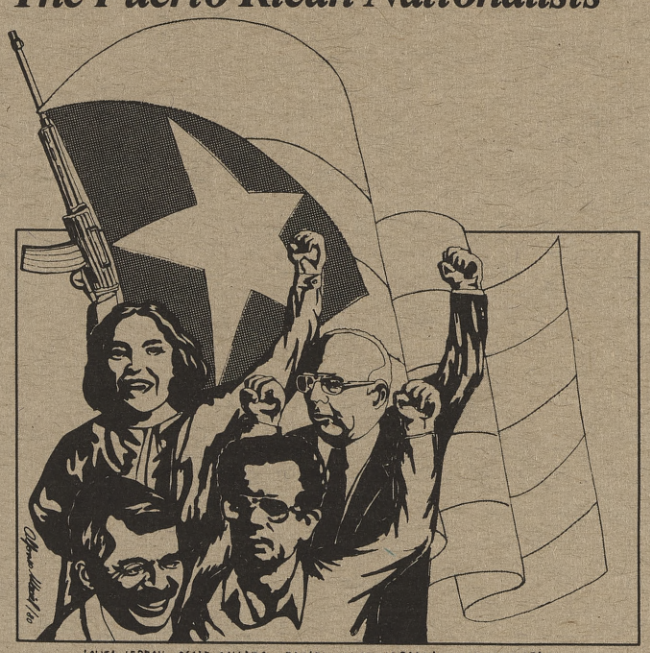
Solidarity Campaign with El Salvador

Friday, February 1, Homage to Farabundo Marti, leader of the 1932 insurrection in El Salvador: musical concert, poetry recital. 8 pm, Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco.

Saturday, February 2, 12 noon, Mass demonstration for a military and revolutionary solidarity with El Salvador. From Dolores Park to Farabundo Marti Plaza, San Francisco.

Sunday, February 3, Popular Dance; music, food, games. Hall—St Peter's Church, Alabama St, between 24th and 25th Streets, San Francisco, 2 pm.

The Puerto Rican Nationalists



The Four Puerto Rican Nationalist Prisoners of War, Lolita Lebron, Oscar Collazo, Irvin Flores, Rafael Cancel Mirand will be speaking at the Oakland Auditorium, 10 10th St, at 7:30 Feb. 6. They will be in the Bay Area as part of their first national tour of the U.S. since their September release from prison. Since their victorious release, the Nationalists have returned to Puerto Rico, speaking to thousands of people all over the island and continuing their fight for independence. The Nationalists will be in the US to build support for the growing war of the Puerto Rican people against US colonialism. They will be discussing current developments in the independence struggle, the need to support the POWs still remaining in prisons in this country: Nydia Ester Cuevas and Pablo Marcano, and the defense of the Vieques Resisters and support for the people of Vieques in their fight to oust the US Navy from their island and the US from Puerto Rico.

The tour is being sponsored by the National Committee to Free All Puerto Rican POWs, the Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional, the California Committee Against Repression and the New Movement in Solidarity with Puerto Rican Independence and Socialism.

Advanced tickets are $3.50 and available at Cody's Bookstore in Berkeley, Centro Legal in Oakland, and Modern Times Bookstore and El Tecolote Newspaper in San Francisco. For more information call 636-1831 in Oakland and 28 5-9473 in San Francisco.

Education in Nicaragua

a brief report by the education brigade of Casa Nicaragua

Under the Somoza regime, the Nicaraguan people endured a shameful education system. The general population received an average of two years of formal schooling in inadequate primary schools, less than 10 per cent of which offered a full six years. Almost half of the teachers were self-taught and without any formal qualifications.

Today, the Nicaraguan people, determined first of all to eradicate the illiteracy (rated at 60-80 per cent) that is the pernicious legacy of 50 years of international tyranny and exploitation, have declared 1980 the year of "alfabetización" (literacy training). A method has been developed based on the work of Paulo Freire and modeled after the uniquely successful Cuban campaign of 1961. Support of this campaign has been a principal task of solidarity groups worldwide.

These giant educational tasks are vital to the Sandinist Revolution. If you want to know how you can help, please call Casa Nicaragua (824-9728) or the Education Brigade Coordinator (Celia 282-0332).

The week of February 10-16 will be a week of solidarity with Nicaragua on eight Bay Area campuses. Events will include panel discussions, talks by Nicaraguan speakers, and the showing of films, videotapes, and slides.



The Plutonium Players, February 1.

More Chaplin Film Festival

92 min.

Those Love Pangs (1914). The boys are rivals for the favors of two ladies. A Woman (1915). Charlie does a marvelous female impersonation skit to get out of the jam. Making a Living (1914). Charlie wears a mustache and top hat in this first film. Kid Auto Races At Venice (1914). Filmed at Venice California. A landmark film in which Chaplin persists in being on-camera, thereby interrupting the filming of the auto races to the exasperation of the director. A Busy Day (1914). Charlie in drag, plays a militant jealous suffragette. Tango Tangles (1914). An impromptu film in which Charlie appears without his makeup. Continuous showing. 7:20 pm. $1.50 (kids $1.)

War of the Buttons

1962, 92 min, b/w.

War of the Buttons is an allegory of war told in terms of French children. The kids of two villages are in combat over an insignificant insult. Forts (a hut built by one side) are demolished, fierce battles are fought with sticks and slingshots, prisoners are tortured (all buttons and suspenders are taken off the victim). *War of the Buttons* also explores relationships between the children and the adults. The children seem to be much more intelligent than their parents, and they succeed in taking a mule and a tractor right out from under the grown-ups' noses. Ironically, the mule won't move and the tractor (a new one) is destroyed. The music, reminiscent of scores for westerns, is extremely effective, especially during the battle scenes.

The Cost of Cotton

One thing Jimmy Carter, Bob Dylan, you and I have in common is that we all wear bluejeans made of 100 per cent cotton. Today just about everybody wears cotton; it is soft, it is warm and it is natural. *The Cost of Cotton* is a documentary on the effects of the international demand for cotton on a developing nation.

Because of the large amounts of pesticides used by the cotton industry, grave health and environmental problems have resulted. The cotton workers, Quiche Indians, imported by the thousands from distant highlands, are the ones most immediately affected. Many are ignorant of the dangers they face. Children chew the sweet flower of the cotton plant; DDT levels in mothers' milk are the highest ever recorded. But the damage goes much farther. Pesticides have been blamed for the disappearance of birds and fish and for the increase in the incidence of malaria. Shipments of beef from Guatemala to the United States have been found to contain high levels of DDT contamination.

16mm, color, 30 mins, USA. Directed by Luis Argueta.

I Spent My Life in the Mines

The industrial mining of tin in Bolivia began in the late 19th century. The impoverished peasants of the country left the "altiplano" and valley farm areas in the hope of finding a better life and more opportunities—such as those education could provide—in the mining towns. These peasants, the descendants of the ancient peoples of the area, even if integrated in an industrial labor force, retained many of the traditions of their old agricultural way of life—including the ritual of reciprocity to the Spirit of the Hills.

The Battle of Chile

Chile/Cuba 1973-1976. Directed by Patricio Guzman. Part I: 100 mins, b/w. Part II: 91 mins, b/w. Spanish language dialog with English subtitles and narration.

The *Battle of Chile* is a powerful portrait of the passions of a people divided and a nation on the brink of civil war. It has been acclaimed by critics here and abroad as an epic historical documentary in the tradition of the *Sorrow and the Pity* combined with on-the-spot urgency and compelling human drama comparable to the *Battle of Algiers*.

The *Battle of Chile* has already been hailed as a "landmark in the presentation of living history on film," a sobering testament to the deep social divisions that exist in any society and, in times of crisis, can change the course of history. For Americans, however, the film is much more important. In exposing the covert activities of the CIA in Chile, the *Battle of Chile* clearly illustrates the complicity of our own government in the "destabilization" and military overthrow of another constitutional government.

"Not only the best films about Allende and the coup d'etat, but two of the best documentary films ever made, changing our concepts within a framework so accessible that they deserve the largest audience. The films (which form a unity) are committed, analytical and chronological, allowing the participants in history to explain it. The result is an extraordinary passion, creating characters of such force and dynamism that they propel the film with a narrative drive not found in most features. . . . Highly recommended, even to the apolitical."

—*Scott Meek, Time Out* (London)

The Battle of Algiers

1966. 123 min. B&W. French and Arabic dialog with English subtitles.

The Battle of Algiers enjoyed enormous international success and received many awards including the prestigious Leone d'Oro at the Venice Film Festival. Gillo Pontecorvo gives a documentary look to his reconstruction of the Algerian rebellion against the French between 1954 and 1957. *The Battle of Algiers* was filmed with such vigor and inventiveness that it seems as if the events are indeed happening for the first time. Amidst elaborate stagings of riots, attacks on the rebels in the Casbah, bombings in the European sector of the city, Pontecorvo focuses on Ali, the FLN leader, and Colonel Mathieu, the methodical Frenchman who attempts to quell the rebel activity.

Although the director clearly sides with the rebels, the film's unflinching depiction of terrorism and violence is a comment on the terrible force that history exerts over men.

BRAZILIAN BANQUET & CARNAVAL

In the tradition of Brazilian Carnaval, La Peña will host a Sunday afternoon FESTA on February 24. Join us at 2 pm for drinks followed by a delicious assortment of authentic Brazilian dishes ranging from *Salada de Craanjuejo* (crab salad), *Galinja di Champignons* (chicken with mushroom and curry), to such exotic desserts as *Pudim de Abacxi and Coco* (pineapple and coconut pudding) and *Pudim de Maa* (stuffed apples). At 5 pm, the celebration accelerates with the dynamic performance of the Afro-Brazilian dance troupe, **Batucaje**, directed by José Lorenzo.

Tickets will be available through February 20 and seating is limited. The cost is $15 for individuals and $25 for two people. Call 849-2568 between 11 am and 5 pm for ticket information. This gala event is a benefit for La Peña.

Festa
Sunday, February 24, 1980
2–6 pm

We encourage community organizations to utilize our catering services for their own fundraising events.

Saludando al Museo del Barrio

Taller Urayoan of San Francisco invites everyone to a reception and "Tarde Puertorriqueña" on Saturday, February 9, from 1 to 5 pm at La Peña in honor of their current poster exhibition in conjunction with Taller Boricua and El Museo del Barrio.

El Museo del Barrio de Nueva York, beginning auspiciously 11 years ago, recently moved into a large and beautiful building facing New York's Central Park and has truly become a proud and permanent part of the barrio. It was a struggle, but sincerity and hard work was rewarded by the support of the people.

Part of the Museum is its Escuela de Arte, housed in an old firehouse, which, this year, is attempting to provide the Spanish-speaking community with a fully accredited program on a level similar to others of the better institutions in New York. It is a bilingual school where the community can participate in artistic disciplines of their own choosing in their own language. It offers the students various courses under four departments: photography; literature; performing arts which include dance, music and theater; and the Department of Fine Arts, which includes drawing, painting, sculpture and engraving.

Art always suffers a tenuous existence in our society, but the Escuela de Arte has suffered an even further unanticipated setback. It may seem a mundane matter—a broken boiler—but it is a broken boiler in a city that gets extremely cold in the winter and makes an unheated building uninhabitable. This leaves the Museo del Barrio with two simple options: get a new boiler or close the school.

A new boiler will cost about $1500. They hope that their friends will support them in their efforts to raise this money. Taller Urayoán feels it is extremely important to do so, for it is a sincere and productive organization bringing art to the people.

Taller Urayoán is a non-profit Puerto Rican educational and cultural organization which produces its own stage shows and musical presentations and sponsors those of others; assists Puerto Rican artists in both the applied and performing arts; runs a silkscreen workshop; and researches Puerto Rican history, culture and current events.

We take our name from Chief Urayoán because he personifies much of what is happening today in Puerto Rico. Puerto Ricans are attempting to direct their own destiny and they are taking a long hard look at their history which, of course, begins with the Taino legacy.

Please call or write for further information. *Taller Urayoán, 2935 16th St, SF, CA 94103. (415) 431-2943.*

El Coro Crece



Last November the Community Chorus of La Peña celebrated its first anniversary, having grown in one year from a small music workshop to a 30-member performing chorus. For La Peña, this marked the culmination of a very productive and creative year, particularly in the area of making our own cultural programs. The original workshop on the Latin American "New Song" began with a small group of Latin and North Americans, and has since increased in size, commitment, skill, understanding, and enthusiasm. The chorus has provided a means of drawing people into La Peña's work and at the same time to extend that work into the community—to begin to build links between community concerns and the struggles in Latin America.

Participation in the chorus has been an educational experience as much as a musical one. We have all learned a great deal about Latin America through the music. In preparing each song, attention is put on understanding the content and the circumstances in which the song was created. Since most of the music we sing is drawn from the Latin American "New Song" Movement, for which virtually no choral literature exists, we have also had to make all the musical arrangements ourselves. In this and other ways, the talents and skills of people in the chorus have been directed toward shaping our programs; these have included skills in carpentry, art, music, and drama.

This month's concerts include songs by Aunt Molly Jackson, Victor Jara and Violeta Parra of Chile, Daniel Viglietti of Uruguay, Roy Brown of Puerto Rico, and traditional music of Bolivia and Peru, accompanied by guitar and traditional instruments of the Andean countries, the quena and charango.

The chorus will be performing on both sides of the Bay in February. On February 1, we will be joining other Bay Area musicians and poets in an "Homage to Faribundo Marti," sponsored by the Bloque Popular Revolucionario of El Salvador (see adjoining article) at Glide Memorial Church, Taylor and Ellis Sts, San Francisco, at 8 pm.

On February 22, we will be giving a full concert at the Community Music Center, 544 Capp St, San Francisco, at 7:30 pm. And on February 29, we will be in concert at La Peña, also at 7:30. Admission to each of these two concerts will be $2.50. Join us!



Back in the Saddle, one of the best country-swing groups around, will be back at a Peña on Friday night, February 22,

June Jordan: Poet, Activist, Educator, at La Peña on Sunday, February 17. "June Jordan is as courageous, as rebellious, as compassionate as she is original. It is her originality that makes shine the beautiful moral power of her. June Jordan is an inhabitant of the entire universe, and in these poems, she reveals the range of her concerns: the range is vast, the interpretations, deep" (Alice Walker). We're sorry about the confusion caused by the cancellation of June Jordan's tour last November. She will very definitely be here this month!

Friends of La Peña,

Mailing the calendar each month is a very expensive undertaking. Getting address corrections adds considerably to it. We spend about $800 each month putting out our calendar, and that does not include the cost of a huge amount of labor. After more than four years as an effective, positive force in the community, La Peña is continuing to work and grow. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, and we urge all of you who can to begin this new decade with a tax-deductible contribution to La Peña. A $3 donation covers the cost of printing and mailing the calendar for one year. A $20 donation ($10 for people without a regular income) enables us to send you una Tarjeta de Compañerismo, which entitles you to 24 courtesy half-price admissions to La Peña–sponsored events for one year. We will, of course, continue sending the calendar to those who cannot afford to make a contribution, and we hope those of you who can donate more will assist us in our work.

Thank you for your solidarity.

¡Que Viva La Peña!

☐ Enclosed is my $_____ tax-deductible donation to support La Peña's work.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

COMMUNITY CENTER CALENDAR

3109 Shattuck Ave. FEBRUARY, 1980

Writing Workshops

Autobiography for Women
Our own lives contain the real material, not only of literature, but also of history. In this workshop we will explore the wealth of experience available to each of us through prose writing exercises both in and out of the workshop.
Saturdays 12:30 to 2:30 $16/month—sliding scale

Poetry
The best poetry tells the truth of what the poet knows, and the process of writing it can help us discover our own knowledge. This workshop will focus both on technique and use of language, and on learning to clarify the thoughts and feelings we want to write about. We will write in the workshop and then share our work, giving as much feedback as time allows. The emphasis will be on a supportive, mildly critical atmosphere, to encourage people to become comfortable with writing.
Saturdays 3 to 5 $16/month—sliding scale

Aurora Levins Morales is a poetry/prose writer, translator and journalist and coordinator of the Pena Radical Poetry Series.

Vista College Courses in the Community Center

30A Beginning Conversational Spanish
Designed for students with no previous knowledge of Spanish. Recommended for personal interest and travel; elementary grammar as needed to help the student speak correctly. (3 units)
4:30 to 6 pm

30B Beginning Conversational Spanish
For students who wish to travel and effectively communicate in Spanish. Emphasis on current conversational Spanish.
6 to 7:30 pm.

For more information about this and other Vista College classes call 841-8431

Vista College Mural Workshop
Free workshop meets twice a week. Tuesdays will be devoted to slide presentations on the history of murals and the contemporary mural movement. There will also be tours of murals in the Bay Area. Fridays will be devoted to working on our own mural projects including portable murals on themes of social concern to the community. We will develop the skills of drawing and painting collectively on large surfaces.

Workshops will be led by Osha Neumann and Ray Patlan both of whom have been active for a number of years in painting murals (including the mural on the front of La Peña).

Classes meet from 2 to 5 pm.

College credit available. Continuous registration at the class. For more info call Osha 654-4227.

Saturday 2

Writing Workshop
12:30 to 2:30 pm Registration fee
Poetry Workshop
3 to 5 pm Registration fee

Monday 4

30A Beginning Conversational Spanish
4:30 pm
30B Beginning Convelsational Spanish
6 pm

Medical Crisis in Nicaragua
A slide show and talk by Casa Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Medical Brigade on the medical situation in Nicaragua after the victory of the revolution. People who are interested in volunteering to work on the drive to collect medical supplies for Nicaragua are particularly encouraged to attend. Sponsored by the Berkeley Free Clinic.
7:30 pm, free

Wednesday 6

Course Offering
Afro-Am studies 19. Latin, Mex-Am Studies 19.
"Racism in America." More than a class; a tool! Taught with profits as the causal factor and as a necessity rather than an accident. Three units credit, Merritt College. Registration ($2) and sign-up at first class meeting. Meets Wed 6:00. Starts 6 Feb.

Thursday 7

Beginning Conversational Spanish 30A
4:30 to 6 pm
Beginning Conversational Spanish 30B
6 to 7:30 pm

Radical Poetry Series: In Search of a Tradition
Radical and reactionary poetry in the North American tradition. An exploration of the works of well known and less well known North American writers, with Charles upton, Jennifer Doane and friends.
7:45 pm, donation

Friday 8

Farms in Berkeley???
Urban Farming Workshop: Our Concept of Survival in the Urban Area as Urban Farmers
Organic Farmers of Berkeley will explain their tested organic concepts of urban farming based on time-tested experience. They will show how we can develop a year-round food supply using organic methods on whatever available land there is. Information on available vacant land in Berkeley, how to prepare the soil, use of home-made compost, planting seasons, use of mulch, and battling the green world of insects using organic methods, and how to organize community gardens.
Free seeds and starters provided!
8 pm, free

Saturday 9

Children's Chorus
10:30 am to 12.

Writing Workshop
12:30 to 2:30 pm Registration fee
Poetry Workshop
3 to 5 pm Registration fee

Sunday 10

Alternative Food Workers' Alliance
An open meeting for people involved in working in alternative food stores or related fields.
11:30 am, free

Tuesday 12

Mural Workshop
2-5 pm.

Thursday 14

Berkeley Free Clinic Health Forum
Mental Health Rights
The sixth forum in the health activism series. Discussion to focus on advocacy strategies in community mental health.
7:30 pm, free

Saturday 16

Children's Community Chorus
10:30 am to 12 noon.

Writing Workshop
12:30 to 2:30 pm Registration fee
Poetry Workshop
3 to 5 pm Registration fee

Sunday 17



New World Poetry Workshop with June Jordan
Jam session to push words into poetry of maximal impact. Participants should bring at least one substantial poem with 21 copies. Registration limited to 20 people.
1 to 4 pm, $10 workshop fee

Rank and File Coalition Open Meeting
The Coalition is a network of rank and file groups and individuals active in many unions (as well as organizing in non-union work places in the Bay Area. Our purpose is to build the rank and file union movement by reporting on, discussing and learning from our activities through a newsletter, monthly general meetings, and occasional public forums on specific topics. We also organize support activities such as mobilizing picket line support for various strikes and organizing car caravans for UVW rallies. We meet every 3rd Sunday of the month alternating between SF and the East Bay.
7 pm. Free.

Monday 18

Open Community Meeting to Discuss Berkeley Ballot Initiative for the US Health Service Act
The California Health Action Coalition (CHAC) and the Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) are exploring the possibilities of a ballot initiative that would give Berkeley's endorsement to the US Health Service Act (Dellums' Bill, H.R. 2969) for a community-worker controlled national health service (not national health insurance). Last November, Cambridge, Mass. passed a similar initiative which was endorsed by an impressive 80% of the voters. An open meeting will help plan to build a Berkeley campaign.

The US Health Service Act would provide free, comprehensive health care to all, emphasizing prevention, occurather

hensive health care to all, emphasizing prevention, occupational health and health education. This plan would transform health-care delivery from a private, profit-oriented business into a democratically-run public service. It will be financed by progressive taxes, and elimates fee-for-service and profits. The proposed national health service would *reduce* medical costs for low- and middle-income people and for the nation as a whole.
7:30 pm, free

The California Health Action Coalition (CHAC) is working for:

1) A democratic national health service
2) Preventive programs advancing occupational and environmental health, and
3) The elimination of all forms of racism, sexism and ageism from health care. Current activities include presentations by the CHAC Speakers Bureau on the US Health Service Act to groups in and around the Bay Area, the development of educational literature, and the publication of a monthly newsletter. For more information, contact: CHAC at 841-7450 on M, Tues, Thurs.

Tuesday 19

Mural Workshop
2-5 pm.

Wednesday 20

Latin American Song Workshop
7:30 free.

Thursday 21

30A Beginning Conversational Spanish
4:30 to 6 pm
30B Beginning Conversational Spanish
6 to 7:30 pm

Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media
Slideshow: Abusive Images of Women in the Media
In this slideshow we analyze soft-core and hard-core pornography, as well as record album covers and mass-media advertising, in terms of the ways they promote violence against women and degrade women. One section of the slideshow examines the racist stereotypes encouraged by pornography about Asian and Black women (so far we have not been able to find much Latin pornography), and another section focuses on the trend toward using children in pornography. We also discuss the effects of pornography on women's assertiveness and our feelings about our bodies.
7:30 pm, $1 to $3 donation—sliding scale

Friday 22

Mural Workshop
2-5 pm.

Saturday 23

Children's Chorus
10:30 am to 12.

Wednesday 27

Latin American Song Workshop
7:30 free.

Thursday 28

Latin American Update
A monthly forum that spotlights the most current events taking place in Latin America, featuring well informed speakers as well as a question-and-answer period.

Tonight's Topic:
Nicaragua Today

Speakers from Casa Nicaragua and People Aiding Nicaragua (PAN) will discuss the purpose and progress of the Reconstruction program instituted after the FSLN victory last July. Nicaragua's agrarian reform program, plan for industrial development, literacy campaign, and relations with the US will be among the topics discussed.
8 pm, $1.50